

Preparing for the Rainy Season – Part 2

Last month's bulletin provided details on preparing your project for the rainy season through careful review of the plans and specifications. This bulletin will focus on the next step - project site inspection and Best Management Practice (BMP) implementation.

Out of the Office and to the Field

So that BMP requirements can be properly assessed and implemented, inspect the construction site to evaluate current field conditions.

- Determine the total amount of disturbed soil areas (DSAs) and identify those areas that can be stabilized to reduce the total DSA to that allowed by the Standard Special Provisions.
- Classify DSAs as being active or nonactive. Areas identified as nonactive are those that will be idle for at least 21 days.
- Identify the DSAs requiring soil stabilization and sediment controls.
- Verify the presence and condition of the active drainage systems.
- Assess the placement of the BMPs required for the control of off-site storm water.
- Identify project areas that are completed or near completion.
- Evaluate the condition of BMPs for material and waste storage in the contractor's yard.

Twenty Days and Counting

Standard Special Provisions require that the contractor begin implementing the necessary BMPs twenty days prior to the beginning of the rainy season. Encourage the contractor to use this time period to make the final preparations, such as:

- Completing work on near-finished DSAs and implementing required protection.
- Installing/scheduling final erosion control on completed areas per the Contract Plans and Special Provisions.
- Cleaning active drainage systems of debris and other obstructions.
- On nonactive areas, implementing temporary soil stabilization and sediment controls. *Remember that nonactive areas must be protected within 14 days from the cessation of soil-disturbing activities or one day prior to the onset of precipitation, whichever occurs first.*
- Completing/scheduling work to control off-site storm water that may impact the construction site.
- Ensuring that sufficient supplies of soil stabilization and sediment control materials are on hand to protect the site in the event of rain (ask the contractor for a plan).
- Implementing tracking, wind erosion, and non-storm water management controls required for the rainy season.



Conduct a thorough field review to assess current conditions.



A completed area with final erosion control measures in place prior to the rainy season.



Off site storm water is diverted around the work area back to the completed portion of a box culvert.

